

This is a unique reloading/information manual. It contains currently available data regarding loading information for this individual cartridge. This data is compiled from the leading U.S. Bullet and gunpowder manufacturers.

This manual is not intended to replace the many comprehensive, in-depth reloading manuals available from a host of publishers, but instead provide you with a quick and easy-to-use reference source which will enable you to compare loads, types of powders, bullets and shot charges for components you may have on hand.

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Published by Loadbooks USA, Inc.

Printed in the United States

One Book / One Caliber

2000
EDITION

The Complete Reloading Manual for the 9mm Luger



32 HNN
01 1201
\$ 7.95

Containing Unabridged Information
from U.S. Bullet
and Powder Makers

Accurate * Alliant * Hodgdon * Hornady
IMR * Lyman * Nosler * RCBS * Scot
Sierra * Speer * Winchester and Others

1,326 Proven & Tested Loads
52 Various Bullet Designs
42 Different Powders

RELOADING SAFETY RULES

Reloading is an enjoyable and rewarding hobby that is easily conducted with safety. But, like many other human endeavors, carelessness or negligence can make reloading hazardous.

The essence of reloading safety is proper handling and storage of primers and powder. By observing the following rules, the chance of hazardous occurrence becomes extremely remote.

Store powder and primers beyond the reach of children and away from heat and open flames. Do not smoke when reloading.

Keep no more powder than needed in an open container. Immediately return unused powder to its original factory container.

Don't use any powder unless its identity is positively known. Scrap all mixed powders and those of uncertain or unknown identity.

Do not store primers in bulk. To do so is to create a bomb! Bulk primers will mass detonate. Do not use primers when their identity is lost. Safely dispose of unknown types of primers.

Courtesy of Speer Reloading Manual No. 11

All loading data contained in this book is the result of testing by the various bullet and powder manufacturers. Under carefully controlled conditions and with the components and test equipment specified, this data proved safe in their tests. Since none of the companies, nor the publisher, listed herein has control over the components and equipment which may be used with this published information, no responsibility is implied or assumed for results obtained through its use.

Courtesy of Hornady Manufacturing Company, Inc.

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Courtesy of Sierra Bullets

Follow loading recommendations exactly. Don't substitute components for those listed. Start loading with the minimum powder charges. Understand what you are doing and why it must be done in a specific way. Stay alert when reloading. Don't reload when distracted, disturbed or tired.

Courtesy of Nosler Bullets, Inc.

The Complete Reloading Manual for the 9mm Luger

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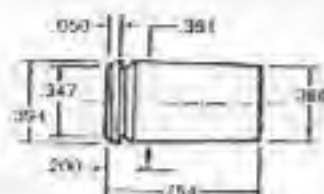
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9MM LUGER - HORNADY BULLETS



9mm LUGER

PISTOL: S & W MODEL 39
 BARREL: 4", 1 in 10" TWIST
 CASE: HORNADY/FRONTIER
 PRIMER: FEDERAL 100

BULLET DIAMETER: .356"
 MAXIMUM C.O.L.: 1.189"
 MAX. CASE LENGTH: .754"
 CASE THIN LENGTH: .744"

The 9mm Luger is the most widely chambered military pistol cartridge in the world. It has become extremely popular in the U.S. and is used by a large number of law enforcement agencies. Introduced in 1902 by Georg Luger in his Luger Pistol and dubbed the 9mm Parabellum, this cartridge was adopted by the German Armed Forces just six years later. The cartridge is also used extensively in submachine guns.

The 9mm Luger is economical and relatively easy to reload. With the ending of World War II, a great number of military surplus semi-autos were sold in the U.S., which also enhanced popularity of the round in this country. Today, every major U.S. manufacturer offers a firearm in this caliber. Many foreign producers offer fine firearms in the 9mm Luger. The U.S. armed services have adopted a Beretta pistol, the M9, as the official sidearm. The large number of firearms in 9mm prompted the need for commercial ammunition and reloading supplies. Hornady offers reloading dies and eight different bullets for the 9mm.

Powders that worked exceptionally well in our test weapon were Hercules Unique, Winchester 231, and AA#2. AA#2 produced the highest velocity of all the powders tested with the 90, 100, 115 and 124 grain bullets while AA#7 and Blue Dot gave the highest velocity with the 147 grain bullet. Velocity difference between 4" and 5" barrels were negligible. Note: When reloading for the 9mm, care must be taken that little or no crimp be used, since the 9mm headspaces on the mouth of the case.

9MM LUGER - HORNADY BULLETS

90 GRAIN BULLETS:

SECTIONAL DENSITY: .102
 DIAMETER: .355"

~35500 HP/XTP
 Ballistic Coefficient — .099
 C.O.L. — 1.080"



POWDER	VELOCITY				
	1150 fps	1200 fps	1250 fps	1300 fps	1350 fps
Red Dot	4.0 gr.	4.3 gr.	4.5 gr.		
IMR 7025	4.3 gr.	4.5 gr.			
700X	4.2 gr.	4.4 gr.	4.5 gr.		
WIN WSL	4.2 gr.	4.4 gr.	4.6 gr.	4.8 gr.	
Bullseye	4.4 gr.	4.7 gr.	5.0 gr.		
Powr Soot	4.3 gr.	4.6 gr.	4.9 gr.	5.2 gr.	
Imperial	4.9 gr.	5.1 gr.	5.3 gr.		
WIN 231	4.9 gr.	5.1 gr.	5.4 gr.	5.7 gr.	
AA #2	4.7 gr.	5.0 gr.	5.4 gr.	5.7 gr.	6.1 gr.
WIN WGT	5.5 gr.	5.9 gr.			
AA #5	6.2 gr.	6.5 gr.	6.8 gr.	7.2 gr.	
HS-6	6.9 gr.	7.2 gr.	7.4 gr.	7.7 gr.	
AA #7	7.8 gr.	8.3 gr.	8.6 gr.	9.3 gr.	

Indicates maximum load - use with caution

9MM LUGER - HORNADY BULLETS

100 GRAIN BULLETS:

SECTIONAL DENSITY: .113
DIAMETER: .355"

#3552 FMJ-RN
Ballistic Coefficient — .115
C.O.L. — 1.105"



POWDER	VELOCITY				
	1050 fps	1100 fps	1150 fps	1200 fps	1250 fps
Red Dot	3.8 gr.	4.0 gr.	4.2 gr.	4.4 gr.	
WIN WSL	3.9 gr.	4.1 gr.	4.3 gr.	4.5 gr.	
Pearl Scot	4.2 gr.	4.3 gr.	4.5 gr.	4.8 gr.	
Bullseye		4.3 gr.	4.6 gr.	4.9 gr.	5.2 gr.
AA #2		4.9 gr.	4.6 gr.	5.2 gr.	5.8 gr.
Unique	4.0 gr.	4.9 gr.	5.1 gr.	5.3 gr.	
WIN 231	4.3 gr.	4.6 gr.	5.0 gr.	5.3 gr.	
WIN WST	5.2 gr.	5.5 gr.	5.9 gr.	6.2 gr.	
AA #5	5.8 gr.	6.1 gr.	6.4 gr.	6.6 gr.	5.9 gr.
HS 6		6.6 gr.	6.9 gr.	7.2 gr.	7.5 gr.
AA #7	7.3 gr.	7.7 gr.	8.1 gr.	8.4 gr.	8.8 gr.

Indicates maximum load - use with caution

9MM LUGER - HORNADY BULLETS

115 GRAIN BULLETS:

SECTIONAL DENSITY: .130
DIAMETER: .355"

#35540 HP/XTP
Ballistic Coefficient — .129
C.O.L. — 1.050"



#3555 FMJ-RN
Ballistic Coefficient — .140
C.O.L. — 1.105"



POWDER	VELOCITY				
	1050 fps	1100 fps	1150 fps	1200 fps	1250 fps
Red Dot	3.7 gr.	4.1 gr.			
WIN WSL	4.0 gr.	4.2 gr.	4.4 gr.		
Bullseye		4.9 gr.	4.8 gr.	5.1 gr.	
WIN 231	4.5 gr.	4.7 gr.	5.1 gr.	5.5 gr.	
Pearl Scot	4.8 gr.	4.6 gr.	5.0 gr.		
Unique	4.7 gr.	4.9 gr.	5.1 gr.		
AA #2	4.7 gr.	5.0 gr.	5.2 gr.	5.6 gr.	5.9 gr.
WIN WST	5.2 gr.	5.4 gr.	5.6 gr.		
AA #5	5.6 gr.	5.9 gr.	6.2 gr.	6.6 gr.	
HS 6	6.3 gr.	6.5 gr.	6.9 gr.		
AA #7	7.4 gr.	7.9 gr.	8.4 gr.		

Indicates maximum load - use with caution

9MM LUGER - HORNADY BULLETS

124 GRAIN BULLETS:

SECTIONAL DENSITY:	.141
DIAMETER:	.355"

#3556 FMJ-FP
Ballistic Coefficient — .174
C.O.L. — 1.050"



#3557 FMJ-RN
Ballistic Coefficient — .145
C.O.L. — 1.150"



#3567 LRN
Ballistic Coefficient — .131
C.O.L. — 1.090"



	VELOCITY							
POWDER	1025 fps	1050 fps	1075 fps	1100 fps	1125 fps	1150 fps	1175 fps	1200 fps
Red Dot	3.8 gr.	4.0 gr.	4.2 gr.					
WIN WSL	3.9 gr.	4.0 gr.	4.2 gr.	4.3 gr.	4.4 gr.			
Bullseye	4.1 gr.	4.2 gr.	4.4 gr.					
Pearl Soul		4.4 gr.	4.6 gr.	4.7 gr.	4.9 gr.	5.0 gr.		
Unique	4.7 gr.	4.8 gr.	4.9 gr.	5.0 gr.	5.1 gr.			
WIN 231		4.7 gr.	4.9 gr.	5.1 gr.	5.3 gr.			
AA #2	4.7 gr.	4.8 gr.	5.0 gr.	5.1 gr.	5.3 gr.	5.4 gr.	5.6 gr.	5.7 gr.
WIN WST	4.6 gr.	5.0 gr.	5.2 gr.	5.4 gr.				
AA #5	5.3 gr.	5.5 gr.	5.7 gr.	5.9 gr.	6.1 gr.	6.2 gr.		
HS-6	6.2 gr.	6.3 gr.	6.5 gr.	6.6 gr.	6.8 gr.	6.9 gr.		
AA #7	7.2 gr.	7.5 gr.	7.7 gr.	8.0 gr.				

Indicates maximum load - use with caution

9MM LUGER - HORNADY BULLETS

147 GRAIN BULLETS:

SECTIONAL DENSITY:	.167
DIAMETER:	.355"

#35580 HP/XTP
Ballistic Coefficient — .212
C.O.L. — 1.100"



#3559 FMJ-RN
Ballistic Coefficient — .212
C.O.L. — 1.169"



	VELOCITY					
POWDER	850 fps	850 fps	900 fps	950 fps	975 fps	1000 fps
SR 4750	3.2 gr.	3.4 gr.	3.6 gr.	3.6 gr.		
WIN WSF	3.3 gr.	3.6 gr.	3.9 gr.	4.2 gr.		
AA #6	3.8 gr.	4.1 gr.	4.3 gr.	4.6 gr.		
Solo 1500	3.8 gr.	4.1 gr.	4.3 gr.	4.6 gr.		
HS-6		4.4 gr.	4.7 gr.	4.9 gr.	5.1 gr.	
Blue Dot	4.2 gr.	4.5 gr.	4.8 gr.	5.2 gr.	5.3 gr.	5.6 gr.
HS-7	4.4 gr.	4.6 gr.	5.2 gr.	5.6 gr.		
AA #7	5.1 gr.	5.5 gr.	5.9 gr.	6.2 gr.	6.4 gr.	6.6 gr.

Indicates maximum load - use with caution

9mm Luger (Parabellum)

The 9mm Parabellum (other sobriquets include 9mm Luger, 9x19 and 9mm NATO) dates from the very early years of this century. Its original home was the Luger pistol, but countless other handguns and submachine guns have been built to chamber it over its long history. It has been, in all probability, the world's most popular handgun cartridge for many years, and it is certainly the most popular submachine gun cartridge. Much of the Parabellum's popularity stems from the fact that it is an excellent compromise. It combines mild recoil and ease of shooting with a reasonable degree of effectiveness on the business end. It is now U.S. military standard, and it is the choice of a great many police departments.

Perhaps because it was primarily the enemy's cartridge in both World Wars, some handgun enthusiasts nursed an antipathy to the 9mm that verged on being downright irrational.

Charges leveled against the 9mm have included that it was incapable of delivering decent accuracy and that as a defense cartridge it was a pathetic joke. In the past, there was probably some basis in both charges. The old 9mm ball ammo was not very effective (although very little worse than the highly touted .45 ACP hardball). Today's well-designed hollow point expanding bullets can give the 9mm stopping capabilities that put it on a par with many good .357 Magnum and .45 ACP loads. At the same time, carefully assembled hand-



caliber can deliver steady, grave accuracy from the right gun. The Parabellum can be handloaded with excellent results. If a few warnings are heeded: From brass varies greatly in length and case wall thickness; reload cartridge cases will seldom, if ever, produce good, resistant sparks. Case volume is very small. If a bullet is seated even a little too deep, primers can run dry. The Parabellum can deliver good performance with a wide range of powders—from ballistics up to such relatively slow burners as Blue Dot or AA-No. 7. Best accuracy will be ordinarily achieved with bullets that have plenty of bearing surface relative to the case.

Like it or loathe it, the Parabellum will remain among the most popular and important cartridges of all time.

Jan M. Chouh

Jan is Editor of *Petersen's Handguns*.

9mm Luger (Parabellum)

Test Information



RIFLE:	Gaucha	Druggins
Length:	4"	
Total:	1.00"	
CASE:	Winchester	
PRIMER:	Rem. 1 1/2	

Comments from the lab

Like most pistol cartridges, the 9mm headsquare from the case mouth. When loading for this cartridge, hold the case mouth just enough to reliably guide the bullet into position and then taper crimp just enough to take the bel-off of the case. Using this seating, the crimping technique will help ensure proper headspacing.

The S.A.M.I. overall cartridge lengths for this cartridge are 1.000" min. and 1.009" max. We suggest seating to lengths on the high end of this range, provided they will function well in your particular firearm.

This load data is not H.P. rated and does not exceed the parameters for standard 9mm Luger pressures.

9MM LUGER - NOSLER BULLETS

Nosler
90 Grain



90 gr.
Hollow Point

*Best Accuracy Load Tested

**Compressed Load

Ballistic Coefficient: .265
Sectored Grooves: .152

Power	Charge Weight in Grains	Muzzle Velocity (fps)	Load Density
BULLSEYE	Max. 5.4	1300 ^{ms}	59%
	4.9	1270 ^{ms}	57%
	4.4*	1150 ^{ms}	47%
UNIQUE	Max. 6.5*	1260 ^{ms}	70%
	6.0	1120 ^{ms}	65%
	5.6	1000 ^{ms}	58%
SR-4756	Max. 6.6*	1078 ^{ms}	73%
	6.3	1153 ^{ms}	66%
	5.8	1006 ^{ms}	60%
HS 6	Max. 6.0	1552 ^{ms}	80%
	7.5	1267 ^{ms}	61%
	7.0*	1152 ^{ms}	75%
AA-No. 3	Max. 7.5	1182 ^{ms}	76%
	6.8	1104 ^{ms}	70%
	6.3*	1002 ^{ms}	68%
BLUE DOT	Max. 8.7	1220 ^{ms}	94%
	8.2	1150 ^{ms}	88%
	7.7*	1090 ^{ms}	83%
AA-No. 7	Max. 8.7*	1102 ^{ms}	97%
	8.2	1037 ^{ms}	93%
	7.7	972 ^{ms}	87%

Use Maximum Loads with Caution

9MM LUGER - NOSLER BULLETS

Nosler
115 Grain



115 gr. H.P. Metal
Incliner



115 gr.
Hollow Point

*Best Accuracy Load Tested

**Compressed Load

Ballistic Coefficient: .265
Sectored Grooves: .152

Ballistic Coefficient: .265
Sectored Grooves: .152

Power	Charge Weight in Grains	Muzzle Velocity (fps)	Load Density
WSL	Max. 4.5*	976 ^{ms}	55%
	4.0	869 ^{ms}	47%
	3.5	748 ^{ms}	41%
HP 38	Max. 5.2	1042 ^{ms}	67%
	4.7	937 ^{ms}	58%
	4.2*	832 ^{ms}	49%
UNIQUE	Max. 6.1	1120 ^{ms}	72%
	5.6	1000 ^{ms}	66%
	5.1*	1000 ^{ms}	60%
SR-4756	Max. 6.6*	1178 ^{ms}	70%
	6.0	1083 ^{ms}	71%
	5.5	901 ^{ms}	60%
HS 6	Max. 7.1*	990 ^{ms}	84%
	6.6	890 ^{ms}	78%
	6.1	770 ^{ms}	72%
BLUE DOT	Max. 8.0	1130 ^{ms}	100%
	8.0	1000 ^{ms}	94%
	7.5*	1000 ^{ms}	98%
AA-No. 7	Max. 8.5*	938 ^{ms}	100%
	8.0	933 ^{ms}	94%
	7.5	866 ^{ms}	88%

Use Maximum Loads with Caution

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger



Test Specifications

Firearm Used: Colt Govt Model M1911

Rbl. Length/Twist: 5"1x18"

Test Components

Cases: Starline

Trims to Length: 750"

Primers: CC 100

Remarks:

Although it was introduced in 1902, the 9mm Luger was actually adopted by the German navy two years later. The cartridge was again adopted four years later, this time by the German army, where it has remained in service ever since. Through a strange turn of events, the 9mm Luger has gone on to become the most successful military pistol cartridge in the world. Early in the Second World War, Britain lost a tremendous amount of equipment at the disastrous battle of Dunkirk. Fearing an imminent Nazi invasion, they rushed to rearm themselves with a variety of easily produced weapons, including submachineguns. Although the 9mm was never really considered for adoption by the British, they had captured huge amounts of 9mm Luger ammunition from the Italians during the campaign in Eritrea. As a result of this windfall, it was suggested that a newly designed submachinegun, the Lanchester, be chambered for the 9mm Luger. Later in the war, the British adopted the Browning High Power pistol, which was also chambered for the 9mm cartridge. After the war the 9mm became the standard NATO cartridge for handguns and submachineguns, because so many countries in the newly formed NATO forces were already using the 9mm. One of the last holdouts finally relented in 1985, when the 9mm was adopted by the U.S. military as our standard service pistol cartridge. Under its NATO designation, the cartridge is known as the 9x19mm. It is also frequently referred to as the 9mm Parabellum.

Here in the U.S., the 9mm was almost unheard of until the 1950's, when Smith & Wesson began developing a series of 9mm handguns for the police and military market. Domestic interest in the 9mm was only lukewarm until the late seventies and early eighties, when the old war horse really took off. Several factors account for this, including the military's adoption and a sudden appearance of several good quality high-capacity 9mm pistols. Today, the 9mm is one of the most popular cartridges among local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Despite its police usage, it has never really caught on for combat competition among U.S. IPSC shooters. In all fairness, this is largely because of regulations which preclude this cartridge specifically. Variants such as the 9x21mm, and the similar .38 Super have dominated the sport for the last few years.

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger, continued

Reloading for 9mm is not difficult, but one should remember that it is a high pressure cartridge. Small changes in component combinations can result in significant pressure increases, and require careful development. Sierra offers a wide range of .355" bullets, adding to the 9mm's versatility. As with most other cartridges intended for use in autoloading pistols, we recommend a firm taper crimp. The 9mm is a good cartridge with a long and illustrious history, as well as a bright future ahead.

.355 90 gr. J301

Cartridge OAL: 1.010"



Powder & Velocity	1200	1250	1300	1350	1400	1450
Bullseye			4.9	4.6	4.7	5.0
201		4.9	5.2	5.5	5.8	6.2
7000C				4.7	5.1	5.5
PN			5.2	5.4	5.7	6.1
AA No. 5	5.2	5.3	5.8	7.1	7.3	
Unibeam			5.5	6.2	6.9	7.6
WAP	5.3	5.1	5.3	6.5		
VIM 5N37	5.3	5.2	5.5	6.8		
SP7025	4.7	5.2	5.4	5.8	6.2	
Harco				7.0	7.4	7.8
AA No. 7	5.1	5.6	5.9	6.4		
Vim 4250	5.4	5.7	6.1	6.5		
Blue Dot			6.0	6.7	6.4	10.0
Energy ft. lb.	288	312	338	364	392	420

Accuracy Load: 2315.5 grs. 1350 ft/sec 284 ft lbs.
Hunting Load: Blue Dot 10.0 grs. 1650 ft/sec 420 ft lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger, continued

.355 95 gr. FMJ
Cartridge OAL: 1.020"



Powder / Velocity →	1150	1200	1250	1300	1350	1400
Bullseye	4.5	4.8	5.0			
231	4.7	5.1	5.4	5.7	6.0	
Red Dot	4.4	4.6	4.8	5.0	5.1	
700X	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.9	
AA-No.5	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.4
Unique	5.4	5.8	6.1	6.4	6.7	7.0
WAP	5.7	6.0	6.3			
SR7625	4.8	5.1	5.4	5.7	6.0	
HS-8	6.7	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.6	7.8
Hercs		5.0	5.0	5.4	5.8	7.2
Vint 3N37	5.9	6.2	6.5	6.7		
AA-No.7	7.9	8.3	8.7	9.2		
Blue Dot	7.9	8.3	8.7	9.0	9.3	9.6
Vint N350	5.7	5.9	6.1	6.3		
Energy/ft.lbs.	379	404	430	456	484	513

Accuracy Load: 231/5.7 grs./1310 fps/366 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: Blue Dot/9.6 grs./1320 fps/415 ft.lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger, continued

.355 115 gr. JHP
Cartridge OAL: 1.015"



.355 115 gr. FMJ
Cartridge OAL: 1.090"



Powder / Velocity →	1050	1100	1150	1200	1250	1300
Bullseye			3.9	4.3	4.7	4.9
231		4.6	4.9	5.2	5.5	
700X			4.0	4.3	4.7	5.1
PD		4.4	4.7	5.0	5.2	
AA-No.5	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.7
Unique		5.0	5.2	5.6	6.0	6.4
WAP	4.0	5.3	5.7	6.0		
SR7625	4.4	4.7	5.0	5.3		
Hercs			5.7	6.0	6.3	6.6
Vint 3N37	5.0	5.3	5.6	6.0	6.3	
AA-No.7			6.0	6.4	6.8	
Blue Dot		6.1	7.3	7.7	8.1	
Vint N350	4.6	5.1	5.6	5.9		
Energy/ft.lbs.	281	309	338	367	399	431

Accuracy Load: Unique/5.8 grs./1200 fps/368 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: Hercs/6.3 grs./1250 fps/399 ft.lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger, continued

.355 125 gr. FMJ
Cartridge OAL: 1.050"



Powder 1/ Velocity →	950	1000	1050	1100	1150	1200
Bullseye	3.5	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.5
221	3.9	4.2	4.5	5.0	5.1	
Red Dot		3.7	4.0	4.3	4.6	
705X		3.7	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.4
AA-No.5	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.8	6.0	6.3
Unique		4.1	4.6	5.1	5.5	5.9
WAP	4.5	4.8	5.1	5.4	5.7	
HS-6	5.1	5.7	6.0	6.3	6.6	
Hotco	4.5	4.8	5.1	5.4		
Vht 3N97	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.8	
AA-No.7			7.5	7.9	8.3	8.7
Blue Dot	5.1	5.5	6.0	7.2	7.7	8.0
Vht N300	4.5	4.8	5.1	5.4	5.7	
Energy ft. lbs.	250	278	306	336	367	400

Accuracy Load: AA-No.7/8.7 grs./1150 fps/367 ft. lbs.
Hunting Load: AA-No.7/8.7 grs./1200 fps/400 ft. lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger, continued

.355 130 gr. FMJ
Cartridge OAL: 1.120"



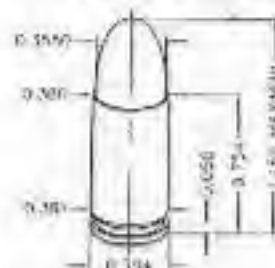
Powder 1/ Velocity →	900	950	1000	1050	1100	1150
Bullseye	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.4		
221		4.0	4.4	4.8	5.1	5.4
Red Dot		3.7	4.0	4.3	4.6	
705X			3.7	4.0	4.4	4.7
AA-No.5	4.8	5.0	5.3	5.5	5.8	6.0
Unique		4.2	4.6	5.0	5.3	5.6
WAP	4.6	4.8	5.2	5.5	5.7	5.9
SN7525			5.1	4.5	4.8	
HS-6	5.4	5.7	6.0	6.3	6.5	6.7
Hotco	4.2	4.6	4.9	5.2		
AA-No.7			7.5	7.8	8.1	8.4
Blue Dot	5.9	6.1	6.7	7.1	7.5	7.9
Vht N300	4.5	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.4	
Energy ft. lbs.	234	261	289	318	349	382

Accuracy Load: Unique 5.9 grs./1150 fps/318 ft. lbs.
Hunting Load: AA-No.7/8.4 grs./1150 fps/382 ft. lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger



Test Specifications

Firmary Used: Marlin Model 9
Bbl. Length/Twist: 18 1/2"x10"

Test Components

Cases: Federal
Trim-to Length: .750"
Primers: Federal 100

Remarks:

Introduced in 1902, the 9mm Luger is probably the oldest cartridge still in common use on a world wide scale. To say that the 9mm has been successful would be an understatement of monumental proportions. Today, the cartridge is not only holding its own, but is actually gaining in popularity. It received a big boost in 1985, when the U.S. military adopted the 9mm Luger as the "new" cartridge for service sidearms. In addition to its military duties, the 9mm has been embraced by many local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies as well. Ever since the days of the wild west, the idea of a rifle/handgun combination in the same caliber has always been a concept unique to America. This notion has given rise to a number of rifles chambered for cartridges normally associated with handguns. The 9mm Luger is one of them.

Many of the rifles chambered for the 9mm are carbine-length, semi-automatic copies of submachineguns, such as the Uzi carbine, and the HKK 94, a variant of the MP5. Our test rifle was the Marlin Model 9 Camp Carbine, an original design. Despite the differences in their appearance, all of these rifles are basically suited to the same range of tasks: small game, varmints, and plinking. Ken Hackathorn, a highly respected gunwriter and defensive shooting instructor, has recommended the Camp Carbine as a viable candidate for home defense. For shooters unable to master the heavier recoil of a shotgun, or unable to obtain a handgun due to local ordinances, this is a feasible option.

While the 9mm may qualify as a fairly powerful pistol cartridge, it is rather anemic in a rifle. Whether used in a rifle or handgun, the 9mm is neither adequate nor suitable for use on big game. When loaded with the lighter weight bullets, which showed the greatest increase in velocity over handgun data, the 9mm is effective for small game and varmints out to 50 or 75 yards. When used within its limitations, the 9mm Luger in a rifle can be an enjoyable combination.

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger, continued

.355 90 gr. JHP
Cartridge G.A.L.: 1.010"



Powder & Velocity	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700
Unique	4.5	5.1	5.8		
Heco		5.9	6.4	6.8	7.0
AA No 7	8.0	8.7	9.4		
Blue Dot		7.0	7.9	8.7	9.2
Energy/lbs.	338	392	450	512	544

Accuracy Load: Blue Dot 7 gr.: 1600 fps/512 ft. lbs.
Hunting Load: Blue Dot 9.2 gr.: 1700 fps/544 ft. lbs.

.355 95 gr. FMJ
Cartridge G.A.L.: 1.020"



Powder & Velocity	1300	1400	1500	1600
Unique	5.0	5.5	6.0	
Heco	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0
AA No 7	6.0	6.6	6.1	
Blue Dot		7.1	8.0	8.8
Energy/lbs.	356	413	475	540

Accuracy Load: Blue Dot 6 gr.: 1600 fps/540 ft. lbs.
Hunting Load: Blue Dot 8.8 gr.: 1800 fps/540 ft. lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

(RIFLE DATA)

9MM LUGER - SIERRA BULLETS

9mm Luger, continued

.355 115 gr. JHP
Cartridge OAL: 1.015"



.355 115 gr. FMJ
Cartridge OAL: 1.090"

Powder + / Velocity →	1100	1200	1300	1350	1400
Unique	4.9	4.7	6.2	5.4	
Hercos		5.0	5.6	5.8	6.1
AA-No.7	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.2	
Blue Dot	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.2	7.4
Energy/ft.lbs.	309	368	431	465	500

Accuracy Load: Blue Dot 7.2 grs.; 1350 fps/465 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: Blue Dot 7.4 grs.; 1400 fps/500 ft.lbs.

.355 125 gr. FMJ
Cartridge OAL: 1.090"



Powder + / Velocity →	1100	1150	1200	1250	1300
Unique	4.4	4.7	5.0	5.3	
Hercos	4.7	5.0	5.3		
AA-No.7	6.7	7.1	7.5	7.9	
Blue Dot	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.7	7.0
Energy/ft.lbs.	336	367	400	434	469

Accuracy Load: Blue Dot 6.7 grs.; 1250 fps/434 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: Blue Dot 6.9 grs.; 1300 fps/469 ft.lbs.

.355 130 gr. FMJ
Cartridge OAL: 1.120"



Powder + / Velocity →	1050	1100	1150	1200
Unique	4.4	4.6	4.8	5.1
Hercos	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.4
AA-No.7	6.8	7.1	7.4	7.7
Blue Dot	5.9	6.2	6.5	6.8
Energy/ft.lbs.	318	349	382	416

Accuracy Load: AA-No.7 7.7 grs.; 1200 fps/416 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: AA-No.7 7.7 grs.; 1200 fps/416 ft.lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

(RIFLE DATA)

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The 9mm Luger cartridge is known by several names including 9mm Parabellum and 9mm. Some pistols chambered for this cartridge are marked "9mm/08" or "9mm 2/08" to indicate the date (1908) when it was adopted by the German Army. Except for war souvenirs, there were few 9mm pistols in the U.S. until the 1930's.

The U.S. military considered the 9mm as a service cartridge on numerous occasions and finally adopted it in 1985 in the M-9 Beretta pistol. The compact pistol and the high magazine capacity found in many models have combined to make the 9mm Luger the most popular cartridge in the U.S. law enforcement community.

The 9mm was originally loaded with full metal jacketed bullets for reliable feeding. However, to succeed as a police service cartridge, it was necessary to use expanding bullets to limit the tremendous penetration of the FMJ 9mm bullets. The current trend in law enforcement is toward 124 and 147 grain JHP bullets.

Speer offers a number of bullets which are suitable for the 9mm. For general purpose shooting and target practice, the 115 TMJ and 124 grain Uni-Cor soft point bullets are a good choice. The 115, 124 and 147 grain Gold Dot hollow point should be chosen for serious defense work.

When loading the 9mm, carefully observe the cartridge overall lengths listed in the data. Unless no conditions should the bullets be loaded shorter than the listed lengths. 9mm case capacity is relatively small and seating a bullet deeper than indicated can cause excessive pressures and the potential for damage or injury.

Loads listed for the Speer 125 grain lead bullet generally do not operate at maximum pressure. We have limited the velocity to around 1000 feet/sec to reduce barrel leading. A good rule of thumb with swaged lead bullets is to use the lightest load which will cycle the action reliably.

The 9mm Luger headspaces on the case mouth so full crimping is not recommended. A good taper crimp will give sufficient holding power as long as the expander ball is no larger than .354". The taper crimp also gives a nicely finished edge to the case mouth for reliable feeding. Refer to the section, "Loading for Semi-automatic Pistols" in the introduction to the handgun data. There you will find an extended discussion on reloading the 9mm Luger that contains some helpful tips.

The listed loads do not exceed the industry maximum pressure of 33,000 psi.

9MM LUGER - SPEER BULLETS



Max. Case Length: 0.754"
Trim-to Length: 0.744"
Max. Cart. Length: 1.168"
RCBS Shellholder: #10
Barrel Length: 4"
Twist: 1-10"

Test Firearm: Smith & Wesson Model 8906
Case: Speer
Primer: CCI 520

.355" Dia. 115 Grain		9mm GD-HP	9mm TMJ	9mm JHP				
Ballistic Coefficient		0.125	0.177	0.118				
G.C.L. Tumble At		1.120"	1.130"	1.125"				
Speer Part No.		3884	3885	3206				
Powder	Wt. Grs.	M/L Vel.	Primer	Wt. Grs.	M/L Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	M/L Vel.
	8.5	1250	Vht.	6.5	1210		5.0	1133
Blue Dot	7.7	1151	N350	5.8	1108	231	4.5	1020
	6.3	1244		7.5	1178		4.5	1121
Unique	5.6	1156	HS-6	6.7	1048	Tite-Group	4.1	1001
Vht.	6.8	1225	H.	5.3	1172	AA	5.8	1102
3N37	6.1	1128	Universal	4.7	1046	#5	5.1	1003
AA	9.8	1220		5.6	1156		5.4	1102
#7	8.0	1155	WSF	5.0	1041	American Select	4.8	1057
Power Pistol	6.7	1212		4.7	1144		4.4	1101
	6.2	1122	Bullseye	4.2	1037	700-X	4.0	1007

Notes: Ball point caliber indicated inside. They should be used with caution. C = Compressed Lead

9MM LUGER - SPEER BULLETS



.355" Dia. 124 Grain

	9mm SP	9mm GD-HP			
Ballistic Coefficient	0.115	0.134			
G.C.L. Tumble At	1.120"	1.120"			
Speer Part No.	3897	3995			

Powder	Wt. Grs.	M/L Vel.	Primer	Wt. Grs.	M/L Vel.			
HS-7	8.9	1249	Vht.	6.4	1178	700-X	4.3	1067
	8.0	1159	3N37	5.7	1083		3.8	980
	7.9	1238		6.4	1157		4.4	1059
Blue Dot	7.1	1121	Power Pistol	5.8	1033	Bullseye	3.8	965
AA	10.90	1185	Tite-Group	4.4	1095		6.7	1059
#9	9.4	1081		4.0	1020	HS-6	6.0	951
Unique	5.8	1180	H.	5.0	1089	American Select	5.0	1053
	5.2	1080	Universal	4.5	993		4.5	954
AA	9.0	1180	AA	6.5	1068		4.8	998
#7	8.1	1077	#5	5.0	982	231	4.0	887

.355" Dia. 147 Grain

	9mm GD-HP	9mm TMJ			
Ballistic Coefficient	0.154	0.205			
G.C.L. Tumble At	1.130"	1.130"			
Speer Part No.	4502	4005			

Powder	Wt. Grs.	M/L Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	M/L Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	M/L Vel.
Blue Dot	5.8	1001	50 4756	4.6	957	WSF	4.1	931
	5.1	900		4.2	841		3.6	840
Power Pistol	5.0	975	HS-6	5.6	956	AA #5	5.1	931
	4.5	872		5.0	815		4.5	821
Vht.	4.9	989	Unique	4.3	954	Tite- Group	3.3	864
3N37	4.4	888		3.8	852		DNR	—
AA	6.8	961	HS-7	6.8	953	Tite- Group	5.1	931
#7	5.1	867		5.1	866		DNR	—

Notes: Ball point caliber indicated inside. They should be used with caution. C = Compressed Lead
DNR = Do not reduce

9MM LUGER - SPEER BULLETS



**.356" Dia.
125 Grain**
S&W Const. #142

Ballistic Coefficient	Ballistic Coefficient	Ballistic Coefficient	Ballistic Coefficient	Ballistic Coefficient	Ballistic Coefficient
0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150
G.I.L. Tested At	1,100'	G.I.L. Tested At	1,100'	G.I.L. Tested At	1,100'
Speed at 100 Yds	450'	Speed at 100 Yds	450'	Speed at 100 Yds	450'

Powder	Wt. Grs.	M.L. Vol.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	M.L. Vol.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	M.L. Vol.
WAP	4.6	1012	HP-38	4.2	905	231	4.1	982
	4.2	921		3.9	917		3.8	911
	4.5	1007		5.6	993		3.4	977
Unique	4.1	911	HS-6	5.1	913	700-X	3.2	920
	3.6	1004		4.3	991		3.8	982
Red Dot	3.3	865	H. Universal	3.9	899	Bullseye	3.5	929

Notes: Reload with correct maximum loads. These loads are listed with factory

LAB NOTES...

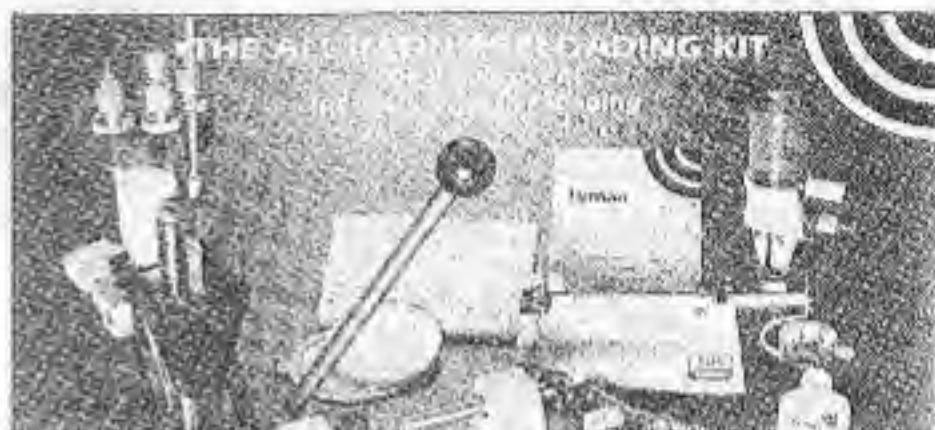
Because of the wide variation in loading recommendations and loading trends in 9mm pistols, some may exhibit sluggish function with the slower of the 147 grain loads. Load a few test rounds and try them for function before settling on a 147 grain load.

Military Cases

9mm Luger cases were once hard to find, but are now as abundant as flour in most areas. There is little need to use military surplus cases when there are so many good commercial cases available at a reasonable price.

In addition to requiring the extra effort of removing a primer crimp, some military cases have primer pockets that are slightly different from those in commercial cases. This can cause reloading difficulties, especially on progressive equipment. Powder capacities may not be the same either, and pressure variations can show up.

Our recommendation — don't bother with military 9mm brass.



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